

## Message Text

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PAGE 01     PARIS 21251 01 OF 02 211449Z

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-06 FSE-00 ABF-01 TRSE-00

CU-04 EB-07 /031 W

----- 089747

R 211433Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3168

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 21251

PLEASE PASS NBS (STEFFEN PEISER) FROM COOGAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AODE

SUBJECT: ONE-YEAR RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT OF NBS SCIENTIST

F. RUSSELL PETERSEN TO FRENCH NATIONAL BUREAU OF

METROLOGY (BNM)

REF: PARIS 20631

1. ONE MATTER REMAINS TO BE RESOLVED BEFORE ADMINIS-  
TRATIVE AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUBJECT ASSIGN-  
MENT CAN BE COMPLETED: THE BNM CAN PAY \$50 A DAY AND  
NO MORE TOWARD SUPPORTING DR. PETERSEN AND HIS FAMILY  
WHILE IN PARIS. THIS AMOUNTS TO ABOUT \$1,400 LESS  
THAN THE TOTAL OF NON-TRAVEL BENEFITS SET FORTH IN  
DR. PEISER'S LETTER OF JULY 9, 1976, TO THE HEAD OF THE  
BNM, PROFESSOR G. DENEGRE.

2. THE \$50-PER-DAY MAXIMUM IS A LIMITATION IMPOSED ON  
THE BNM BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS AND CANNOT BE  
CIRCUMVENTED, ACCORDING TO PROF. DENEGRE. EXCLUDING  
EXTREMES, THE CURRENT EMBASSY REGISTER OF HOUSING  
AVAILABLE IN THE OPEN MARKET INDICATES THAT FURNISHED  
2-BEDROOM APARTMENTS RANGE IN PRICE FROM ABOUT \$290 TO  
\$770 WITH AN AVERAGE OF \$550, WHICH INCLUDE ALL CHARGES  
BUT NOT UTILITIES, WHICH MIGHT RUN 10 PERCENT MORE.  
THEREFORE, IF DR. PETERSEN COULD FIND AN APARTMENT AT  
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PAGE 02     PARIS 21251 01 OF 02 211449Z

THIS "AVERAGE" COST, HIS EXPENSES WOULD THEN FIT WITHIN

THE \$50-A-DAY BNM MAXIMUM AND HE WOULD STILL BE ABLE TO HAVE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT STANDARD AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR EDUCATION ALLOWANCE AND POST ALLOWANCE.

3. ANOTHER POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE OPEN TO DR. PETERSEN IS TO MAKE USE OF EMBASSY-OWNED HOUSING, WHICH WOULD PERMIT HIM TO COMFORTABLY OPERATE WITHIN THE \$50 MAXIMUM. WE HAVE PLACED HIM ON THE WAITING LIST FOR A 2-BEDROOM EMBASSY APARTMENT (THE MAXIMUM ALLOWED FOR HIS FAMILY) IN THE BOULOGNE COMPLEX, WHICH IS A STOP ON THE BUS ROUTE FOR THE AMERICAN SCHOOL. ONE-WAY COMMUTING TIME BY CITY BUS AND METRO (SUBWAY) FOR DR. PETERSEN TO THE BNM LABORATORIES WOULD BE ABOUT 45 MINUTES. HOWEVER, THESE APARTMENTS ARE UNFURNISHED, AND, SINCE THE EMBASSY NO LONGER MAINTAINS A STOCK OF FURNITURE ITEMS, DR. PETERSEN WOULD HAVE TO FURNISH THE APARTMENT AT HIS OWN EXPENSE.

4. ALTERNATIVELY, DR. PETERSEN MAY CONSIDER ECONOMIZING BY SENDING ONE OR BOTH DAUGHTERS TO FRENCH SCHOOLS. A NUMBER OF AMERICANS HAVE DONE THIS FOR EVEN ONE-YEAR VISITS HERE WITH CONSIDERABLE SATISFACTION.

5. ANTICIPATING THAT DR. PETERSEN AND NBS WILL FIND THE \$50-PER-DAY LIMIT ACCEPTABLE, PROFESSOR DENEGRE HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED A MECHANISM BY WHICH THE BNM WILL MAKE PAYMENTS TO ITS AGENT, LCIE, A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION, WHICH WILL IN TURN MAKE FOUR DISBURSEMENTS TO THE U.S. EMBASSY PARIS, ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

1 SEPT 1976 PAYMENT FOR AIR FARES ROUND-TRIP  
BOULDER-PARIS-BOULDER \$3,262.00

TRANSPORTATION OF BAGGAGE AND  
RESEARCH MATERIALS 800.00

FIRST THREE MONTHS OF LIVING  
EXPENSES (AT \$50/DAY) 4,562.50

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PAGE 03 PARIS 21251 01 OF 02 211449Z

1 DEC 1976 SECOND PAYMENT FOR 3 MONTHS'  
LIVING EXPENSES IN ADVANCE 4,562.50

1 MAR 1977 THIRD PAYMENT FOR 3 MONTHS'  
LIVING EXPENSES IN ADVANCE 4,562.50

1 JUNE 1977 FINAL QUARTERLY LIVING EXPENSE  
PAYMENT IN ADVANCE 4,562.50

ALL PAYMENTS WILL BE MADE IN FRENCH FRANCS WITH A

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PAGE 01 PARIS 21251 02 OF 02 211458Z

43

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3169

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 21251

CURRENT CALCULATION OF 4.8 FRANCS TO THE DOLLAR.  
(FURTHER DETAILS ON THIS ARE CONTAINED IN A LETTER BEING  
SENT FROM PROFESSOR DENEGRE TO NBS.) BNM SUGGESTS THAT  
THE EMBASSY DISBURSE THESE FUNDS TO DR. PETERSON ON  
A MONTHLY BASIS. (COMMENT: WE RECOMMEND THAT DR.  
PETERSON BE PREPARED TO PAY THE EQUIVALENT OF 3 MONTHS'  
RENT ON HIS ARRIVAL IN PARIS. TWO MONTHS OF THIS IS  
FOR A DEPOSIT, WHICH THEORETICALLY IS REIMBURSED AT THE  
COMPLETION OF HIS LEASE.)

6. ACTIONS REQUESTED:

- A. PLEASE INFORM US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF DR.  
PETERSON AND THE NBS ACCEPT THE BNM \$50 PER DAY  
LIMITATION.
- B. IF DR. PETERSEN AND NBS ARE WILLING TO PROCEED,  
PLEASE INSTRUCT THIS EMBASSY BY TELEGRAM TO ACCEPT  
PAYMENT FROM BNM'S AGENT, LCIE, AND PLEASE SPECIFY THE  
FREQUENCY AND AMOUNTS OF DISBURSEMENTS TO BE MADE TO DR.  
PETERSEN BY THE EMBASSY.
- C. DOES DR. PETERSEN WISH TO REMAIN ON THE WAITING  
LIST FOR A BOULOGNE EMBASSY 2-BEDROOM, UNFURNISHED  
APARTMENT.

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